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Senate

(Legislative day of Thursday, May 27, 2021)

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, a Senator from the State of Maryland.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, the fountain of wisdom, You said in John 8:31, "If you obey my teaching, you are really my disciples; you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." As our lawmakers strive to be guardians of freedom, may these words illuminate their path.

Lord, remind our Senators that history is strewn with the wreckage of nations that ignored liberating truth.

We pray in the name of Him who said in John 14:6, "I am the truth." Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 28, 2021.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, a Senator from the State of Maryland, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

ENDLESS FRONTIER ACT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the unfinished business.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1260) to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer amendment No. 1502, in the nature of a substitute.

Cornyn/Cotton amendment No. 1858 (to amendment No. 1502), to modify the semiconductor incentives program of the Department of Commerce.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

Mr. SCHUMER. In a moment, the Senate will resume business. A few of our Republican colleagues may continue their speeches.

The Senate spent 2 hard weeks working on this bill, and many months before that. We have every intention of sticking it out until the job is done, and that is what we are going to do. I look forward to passing this historic and extremely bipartisan bill later today.

I yield the floor.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

QUORUM CALL

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll, and the following Senators entered the Chamber and answered to their names:

[Quorum No. 4]

Baldwin	Hirono	Reed
Bennet	Hyde-Smith	Romney
Blumenthal	Johnson	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Carper	Klobuchar	Scott (FL)
Casey	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Collins	Lujan	Shaheen
Coons	Lummis	Smith
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Stabenow
Daines	Marshall	Tester
Durbin	Merkley	Tuberville
Feinstein	Murphy	Van Hollen
Fischer	Ossoff	Warner
Gillibrand	Padilla	Warren
Hassan	Paul	Whitehouse
Hickenlooper	Peters	

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. A quorum was present.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, we are currently \$28 trillion in debt. Whose fault is it—Republicans? Democrats? The answer is yes, yes on both fronts. Both parties are responsible for the debt, and one side is honest about it. One side will tell you they don't give a fig about the debt: The debt be damned. We are for new monetary theories. Spend as much as you have got; borrow as much as you can; and somehow we are going to combat the influence of China by borrowing more money from China. It doesn't really seem to make a lot of sense, but that is where we are.

So we have before us a bill that will simply add to the debt. We will go further in debt. You might make the argument that we are actually less strong as a nation the more in debt we are.

Where is the opposition? Now, there is no opposition on one side of the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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